Approved For Release 2000/09/03 NCIA-RDP84-00022R00030 The present history of the Contact Division, Office of Operations, from three unincipal sources. First is an a large quantity from material supplied by the Division itself. This material is in the form of two voluminous historical studies prepared 25X1A an officer of the Contact Division in 1952 and 1954 by and forms one of the three principal sources of the present work. been from the vantage-point of long experience with the work of the Contact Division, these studies are absolutely essential to any understanding of its mission and its operation. Their contents reveal a wide and accurate knowledge of the Division's history since 1946 and have been invaluable in the preparation of the present work. Without the of these two works the Historical Stoff would with virtually unsurmountable difficulties and obstacles of its own mission. The Contact Division, it is understood, has from the beginning made a special effort to maintain an accurate historical record describe This effort is worthy of the for its own purposes, of its activities. highest commendation, not only because it has enormously facilitated the

work of the Historical Staff, but also because it reveals a true understanding

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of the importance of historical records, whether history is to be reg purpose and the employment of history in as useful for its own sake, that of preserving and possing on knowled	arded and ge of
of a fovernment agency: the past, or whether it is to be regarded as having a very utilitaria	n
purpose and use that of employing the knowledge of the past to improve	ove
present and future activities.	
Secondary The second major source for the present study is the book written 25X1A	during
1951-1953 by antitled The Central Intelligence Age	ncy, an
Instrument of Government, 1940-1950. Whereas works very	properly
are histories of one office within the Central Intelligence Agency an	d thus 🗸
emphasize those things which most closely relate to Contact Division's 25X1A	own
activities and problems, work is primarily the history	of the
everall picture of the development of a national intelligence service	A and
therefore of necessity Subordinates analysis of this work, therefore, the immediate problems of individual offices, or	- ^-
legal and other	
necessity subordinated to the discussion of the many problems attenda	nt
upon the attempt to estallish an activity a central intelligence are	20. 21

Historical Staffsis Since the present effort of

combining the history of the idea of central intelligence with that of the

25X1A

individual components of the Central Intelligence Agency,

work has been utilized where appropriate. The material drawn from his book deals chiefly with the events of the summer and fall of 1946, when there was so much discussion of how domestic collection of foreign intelligence

information was to be organized, and with the events leading up to NSCID 7.

In addition to the foregoing secondary source material certain primary sources have been used. These consist new in the Historical Staff files. These deal principally with the

vistory of the Central Intelligence Group and the Gentral Intelligence Agency

and will serve to elaborate and confirm, where appropriate, the works

already mentioned above.

I documents at present in the this forical Staff files and include interviews with key persons, memoranda, directives and regulations, transcripts and minutes, and correspondence.